

SKIP CyberHam

\$1.95

● December 1997

Amateur Radio - Computers - Communications - Internet

Season's
Greetings

*Can't believe I've
been doin' this for
40 years !!*



<http://www.digital.net/skip/>

Florida Hams Respond To Surprise Tornado

Just after midnight on November 2, the beachfront community of New Smyrna Beach, Florida, was struck without warning by a tornado. The storm, rated by the National Weather Service as an F2 twister, carried winds in excess of 150 MPH. Damage surveys estimated more than 350 structures were damaged or destroyed, and 32 people were injured—a half dozen or so badly enough to require hospitalization. Remarkably, no one was killed, but some 200 residents were forced to seek refuge in shelters, hotels or with family and friends.

The surprise storm was a bit of a wake-up call for The Central Florida ARES and RACES teams, which had been lulled into complacency by a rather inactive hurricane season.

Volusia County ARES EC Bill Crandall, KM4AE, and his wife, Mary Ann, KD4MSD, activated the Volusia County Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Service (VARECS) and had the emergency operations center operational by 6:45 AM on November 2. An emergency net soon was humming on the 147.24 MHz repeater. Within a couple of hours, Amateur Radio priority traffic began flowing between the Daytona Beach Red Cross and the New Smyrna Beach ARC field disaster site service center. Telephone communication also was established with the New Smyrna Beach Sheriff's Office to verify and update damage reports. In addition, damage reports were funneled through Air Force MARS channels to FEMA.

By noon, a working communication plan was established between Red Cross Communications Director Paul Branch, K3NON, and KM4AE. All East Central District County ARES teams responded to a call for outside support. In all, KM4AE reports, 54 hams—including two ARRL PIOs—volunteered their services to help in the tornado damage assessment and recovery effort. "Our

working relationship with the Red Cross communications director was excellent," Crandall said. Hams actively provided communication service for more than 156 hours between November 2 and November 8.—Bill Crandall, KM4AE; Michael Welch, KF4HFC; Norman Lauterette, WA4HYJ

Arizona QRmer to PAY UP

Hams in Arizona are cheering, now that a man fined by the FCC for malicious interference and other rules violations has finally agreed to pay up. Last year, the FCC fined Timothy Harold Hoffman of Phoenix \$6000 for repeated violations, including interference to Phoenix-area repeaters. The violations were called to the Commission's attention by the Arizona Repeater Association's ARRL-sanctioned Local Interference Committee. Hoffman was cited for five specific violations, including transmitting on ham frequencies without a valid operator or station authorization, and willfully and maliciously interfering with ham radio communications. But, as Lance Halle, KW7LH, tells it, "it took a multitude of long distance calls by committee members, support from FCC personal, input from Congress, and the White House, to get a Notice of Forfeiture and then a federal court judgment" against Hoffman, which he called "one of the major interferers."

"The system does work," Halle said in alerting the ARRL to the October 26 judgment by US District Court judge Robert C. Broomfield. Hoffman will pay off his fine in increments of \$200 per month. "Spread the word! Maybe this will deter some of the would-be interferers."



Bogus bulbs?

Merit Arnold, W6NQ, of RF Parts in San Marcos, California, asks in an Internet posting if anyone has encountered counterfeit high-power transmitting tubes (eg, 3-500Z, 3-500ZG, 4-400 series) at flea markets or through overseas suppliers.

He says that since Eimac left the glass tube business, he's learned of instances where Eimac and Amperex logos and cleverly copied markings or labels have been applied to tubes manufactured in China which are then packaged in yellow Eimac-style or Amperex boxes. Arnold says that recent-issue Eimac 3-500Z/ZG tubes will have the Eimac logo imprinted on the grid shroud. Also, he says, Eimac will usually have the serial number engraved with vibrating pencil on the shroud. On the other hand, the counterfeit overseas tubes will have the date code and serial number stamped along the edge or on top of shroud (first two digits indicating year of manufacture). Counterfeit 4-400 series "Amperex" tubes use a "slip-on" anode terminal with a set screw. Genuine Amperex tubes have the terminal fused through the glass. W6NQ would like to hear from anyone who has run into these bogus tubes. E-mail him at rpf@rfparts.com.—thanks to Marv Gonsior, W6FR

Gates look-alike peddles Microshaft Winblows 98

COMDEX
Fall '97



LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, U.S.A., 1997 NOV 21 (NB) — By Patrick McKenna, Newsbytes. "This is just an example of gorilla marketing," said Comdex show director, William Sell. He was responding to a press release in which Palladium Interactive of Larkspur, California, a software developer and publisher, claimed Comdex officials physically expelled a Bill Gates look-alike and Parrot Interactive personnel from the convention grounds. Parrot Interactive is a humor division of Palladium.

"No company can distribute their products or promote in the hallways of Comdex without permission," began Sell. "The media needs to check its facts. The fact is we have not expelled anyone from Comdex in three years. What you have been reading about this matter is the way a company gets a whole lot of media attention."

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NEWS BRIEFS

According to Palladium, a group of Parrotty employees was promoting a new CD-ROM title meant as humor targeting Microsoft and Bill Gates, the company's chairman and chief executive officer. Called "Microshaft Winblows 98," the CD includes VirtualBill, a personal on-screen cyber pet; Bills Personal Outlook, a satire of Bills to-do list and e-mails; the Roll Ahead, a take-off on Gates book title; Winblows Exploder, a shooting game; and more.

By Palladium's account, Comdex security personnel shut down distribution of Microshaft Winblows 98 materials and expelled the Bill Gates look-alike and a support team from Parrotty Interactive from the Las Vegas convention center grounds. This expulsion took place after two days of Comdex crowds mobbing the look-alike for pictures and Microshaft Winblows 98 materials.

Rob Halligan, currently unavailable for comment, said in an official release, "Microshaft Winblows 98 may be a joke, but getting thrown off the show floor was certainly not a joke. We have every right to parody Bill Gates and Microsoft in Las Vegas, as we do in our product Microshaft Winblows 98. We certainly plan to register a protest with Comdex officials. Don't these people have a sense of humor?"

Parrotty employees could not use city sidewalks to distribute their promotional materials. This year the city of Las Vegas eliminated a tractional activity of handing out advertisements from individuals on public streets and sidewalks. In years past, Comdex attendees were handed hundreds of brochures about everything from computers to local escort services.

Once inside the Las Vegas Convention Center, the Parrotty group came under the authority of ZD Comdex & Forums which controls all activities within the center.

Palladium officials were unavailable for comment.

Ham hurt in hamfest explosion

José Martinez, WA4VUZ, of Pembroke, Florida, was seriously injured when his motor home exploded during the Palm Beach County Hamfest the weekend of October 18-19 in West Palm Beach. According to a report in the October 20 edition of the *Sun Sentinel* newspaper, the explosion was caused by a leaky propane gas tank. "Known for their prowess in helping victims of hurricanes and other natural disasters that destroy routine communications, Martinez's fellow radio enthusiasts rushed to confront a major emergency of their own," the report by staff writer

Tim Collie said. Martinez reportedly suffered burns. He was helicoptered to a hospital in the wake of the early-morning blast and was reported in satisfactory condition. Another man also was injured. The newspaper said that hams at the gathering took up a collection for Martinez, a regular at the Palm Beach County Hamfest.—thanks to Mort Eisenberg, K3DG

Truckers use Internet



HOUSTON, TEXAS, U.S.A., 1997 NOV 3 (NB) — REPEAT/By Sami Menefee. 1-800-drivers, a 24-hour job hotline produced for truck drivers by Road Watch America, has opened a World Wide Web site at 1800drivers.com to supplement its dial-in interactive voice phone service. The phone service, called JobLine, matches up truck drivers who are looking for work with trucking firms that need drivers, but the new Web page opens up other possibilities, says the firm.

While online, drivers can browse company benefits, pay, types of driving jobs, qualifications, and geographical areas covered. They can then fill out an application on the spot and send it directly to the company or companies via e-mail or a fax-forward service provided by the company to apply for a job.

Besides job listings, drivers get up-to-date regional road reports with information like weather, highway construction and accidents.

"We were up and in place with the online waiver for companies to comply with FCRA (Fair Credit Rating Act), which passed October 1. Now, for a company to check a driver's job app, that driver must sign a waiver. We have those waivers available on both services for drivers to fill out at the same time they fill out the job application," he said. The firm stores applications in their system for all the companies on contract.

"The site is funded by the trucking companies," said Jim O'Neill, of 1-800-drivers, a division of Metro Networks and Road Watch America. "We keep track of the number of positions needed and the number of placements each company needs. The smaller companies get charge proportionately less."

For drivers without access to a computer, JobLine lets applicants speak or use the phone's touch-tone

buttons to get applications and other required forms sent to them. The information is faxed or snail-mailed to the driver within 24-hours, said the firm.

O'Neill said, "We get about 500 applications each week from the Web site, and about 3500 applications from the phone service. But we are getting anywhere from 30,000 to 32,000 hits per week on the site," adding that many people just visit and then directly to a company.

"Some trucking companies aren't high-tech, so we design and put up sites for them. All our Web authoring is done in-house," said O'Neill.

The company's Web site is at <http://www.1800drivers.com>.

News Briefs

Microsoft E-Mail Boosts US Justice Dept's Case

The US Department of Justice (DOJ) revealed an internal e-mail from Microsoft that DOJ said supports its case against the software giant in an antitrust suit. DOJ also said that Microsoft's claim that its World Wide Web browser should be treated as a part of Windows 95 defies common sense.

Three People Say They Sold Intercepted Pager Messages

Three men who ran a "news network" of sorts admitted to breaking the law intercepting pager messages from public agencies, including the New York Police Department, and selling the messages as news tips to the media.

Nintendo Sues Over Game Copying Device

Nintendo of America said it sued two companies — one in the US, one in Hong Kong — for "making and selling an illegal Nintendo 64 video game copying device." In recent years, Nintendo said it has filed hundreds of lawsuits against video game counterfeiters, winning a number of significant victories worldwide.

SKIP ON TAPE FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED

SKIP is put on tape every month for the benefit of the blind or visually impaired. These tapes are available if requested and postage is paid both ways. If you are interested in this valuable service, contact Ms. Desaree Stewart, Library for the Blind, 420 Platt Street, Daytona Beach, FL 32114. Phone 1-800-226-6075.

From the Editor

As SKIP/CyberHam bids you fond adieu for 1997, I extend my most sincere wishes for the holidays and for a Happy New Year. The magazine has experienced another year of growth, in part with the addition of CyberHam readers and with a greater than normal number of new subscribers through the magazine's web page. The magazine is deeply indebted to its faithful advertisers who contribute significantly to defraying the escalating costs of production and mailing. I trust that the readers appreciate this and in turn, support and patronize the businesses.

Barring any unforeseen government edicts, we can look forward to 1998 with anticipation of the release of Microsoft's vaunted Windows98. Latest rumors peg the release for April so judging by past experiences with 95, we might see it toward the end of the year. I can hardly wait! Imagine all the new ways to crash and all the new messages to tell you why. According to advanced publicity, there will be new utilities to prevent or fix crashes. So far, there has been no mention of seat belts and air bags for the new 98.

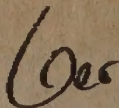
The Windows98 systems might be the last of the old Windows breed of the operating system. Microsoft has been subtly guiding users to NT. Windows98 is geared for the home PC and could be the last gasp before the big switcheroo. I still don't like the idea of the system being tied in with Microsoft's Internet Explorer. I read here that it's "no problem" and you can use your own browser but there I read, "well yeah, you can use your own browser but when it's one of Microsoft's handy dandy automatic built-in functions, it uses the Internet Explorer". Just yesterday I read that Microsoft's Internet Explorer is extremely difficult (if not impossible) to remove without corrupting the new operating system. That makes me nervous.

How about some of my wishes for 1998? I wish that any shareware made available for free and that self-destructs after 30-60 days, carry a huge WARNING to the effect that it has a limited time for use. I hate to download one of those mega-megs, install it, and find out it expires in 30 days and most of the functions don't work anyhow. In addition, one has to put up with messages flying up in your face telling you that you only have 29 days left, 28 days left, etc. etc. It's OK when it is truly a package you are interested in buying but they should still have some notification.

As a fervent "Cookie" hater, I wish they would either ban them altogether or limit them to 5 per site. I have a cookie crusher installed and I've had as many as 27 machine gun like cookies fired at me when arriving at a site. PC World is one of the big offenders. Connect to their site then sit there until it blows off 7-12 rounds of cookies before allowing you to proceed.

How many of you have been injured using your computer? May it please you to learn that there is a class action lawsuit in progress in which the plaintiffs allege injuries caused by keyboards. "I was just sittin' there and this plus sign flew up and smacked me in the eye" or, "I went to hit Page Down and my finger got caught between PgDn and Delete causing me great pain and anguish". Just kidding of course. As you may surmise, the real or imagined injury is Carpal Tunnel Syndrome. If you've ever experienced those sharp pains in your wrist after typing a zillion page report, you get the drift. I usually just stand up, shake the hell out of my hands for a few minutes and get back at it. But then, I've gone in some offices and saw individuals that resemble hospital patient cartoon characters propped, suspended or supported with arm rests, wrist rests, belts, pulleys, foot rests, and even a religious-type device on which one kneels to work at the computer. Maybe worship the computer is a better phrase. I never thought I'd see the day one was injured by a computer unless the monitor exploded in your face or fell over on your head. Occasionally my hand gets numb when working the mouse for extended periods of time. Wonder if I could sue? My god, what would happen if gangrene set in?

I believe we've arrived at the cutting edge of the Techno-Litigious Revolution.



SKIP

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Matt Matthew, KC4RKJ

Silent Key

Longtime friend of SKIP Magazine and former Editor of Eye on the Panhandle

The Editor was shocked and saddened to learn of the death of Matt Matthew, who many *SKIP* readers knew and remember as the Editor of *Eye on the Panhandle* for many years. Matt was the husband of Lorraine, Editor of *Army MARS*. Matt was also an avid and experienced photographer whose pictures and photo essays appeared frequently in *SKIP*.

Matt was a good friend of mine and countless hams in Florida. After Matt and Lorraine moved to Arizona, Matt understandably discontinued his very popular column. Although his column focused on the north panhandle area of Florida, he frequently covered a broader spectrum of topics, of interest to hams everywhere. His monthly column was sorely missed and Matt the gentleman and ham, will be greatly missed.

My heartfelt sympathies to Lorraine.

Tribute to Matt Matthew, AAA9MR by Chief, Army MARS

"As my closing comments tonight, I want to expand on my CAM 57-97, about Mr. Robert (Matt) Matthew, AAA9MR, who became a Silent Key this week after a severe stroke a few weeks ago and another one this past Monday.

What may be transparent to many except those that he helped, Matt had unselfishly and willingly devoted a significant amount of his time to help promote the MARS program. Although his accomplishments in the few years that he was on my special staff are too numerous to mention, the end result of dedicated efforts in helping other members recruit new members is well known to us here at the Headquarters. I might add, also to all of those who have received assistance from him.

In his volunteer special staff role of Army MARS Membership Recruitment Coordinator, Matt and his wife Lori, AAA9PR, as a team effort, have prepared and delivered hundreds of self-developed MARS posters, banners and recruitment literature for MARS activities around the globe. Our HQ USASC MARS station has one of his banners predominantly displayed on the wall.

We have also seen the fruits of their efforts by the significant increase in the number of individuals requesting membership in MARS since Matt and Lori joined the Army MARS team. As with many of our Silent Keys, Matt will remain as fond memories for years to come.

Lori Matthew asked me to pass on to the membership the following message on her behalf, and I quote:

"I never knew how much love and support there is in the Army MARS family. This new knowledge is one of the blessings to have come out of this experience. Thank you to the entire Army MARS family for the love, the support and prayers that were given to Matt and myself. Thank you, too for the many messages and cards that Matt and I received. All of these efforts were and still are much appreciated. These efforts helped efforts helped immeasurably to bring us through a very difficult time. The prayers were indeed answered." Unquote"

MARY D. "MAE" BURKE, W3CUL, SK

Champion NTS traffic handler Mae Burke, W3CUL, of Seminole, Florida, died November 5, 1997. She was 86. Mae Burke was a member of the ARRL and of the A1 Operator's Club. She won the fifth Edison Radio Amateur Award for public service for 1956 (see QST, Apr 1957, p 68). At that time, she was operating daily in six CW nets and handled some 312,000 messages between 1949 and 1957.

Her husband, Alfred Burke, W3VR, survives.—thanks to Michael Wacker N3HR

Editor's Tribute to Mae, W3CUL

The Editor never met Mae, W3CUL in person but occasionally was required to receive NTS traffic from her sent in her unique CW fashion. There was no mistake that Mae could crank out an unbelievable volume of messages and those who regularly communicated with her could usually get accustomed to her "fist". Frequently, the secret was to ask Mae not to use her bug and to slow down.

However, I never was able to get accustomed to, or perhaps unable to figure out her style. It was a terrible blow to my ego since I gained a fair degree of notoriety during my government service as one who could extract sensible copy from the worst of the worst fists throughout the Far East. On one occasion, I received a commendation from a major intelligence agency for identifying the callsign of a major guerrilla unit that defied the trained ears of their experts. But Mae was my Waterloo. It wasn't that she was "ham-handed" but that she had an unusual, often unpredictable, rhythm complicated by unintended dits introduced when using a bug.

Looking back over the years since I took over the magazine, I recall few occasions where Mae was not Number 1 in the Top Twenty Trafficers. If she wasn't number 1, she might have sunk as low as number 3 or 4 a few times - only a few times. That alone speaks volumes for her expertise and dedication to traffic handling. Despite failing health, Mae religiously kept up her incredible pace until her death at 86 years old.

Silent Keys

We regret to report the passing of the following Amateur Radio Operators. Please notify **SKIP** of silent keys in your area.

KC4RKJ - Matt Matthew, Kingman, AZ
W3CUL - Mary D. "Mae" Burke, Seminole
W4GBH - Edwin F. Carr, Jacksonville
KF4AH - George R. Petsche, Fort Lauderdale
KC4GRH - Walter J. Parker Sr, Jensen Beach
KD4FKF - John Bosch, Port Richey
N4GSS - Eugene D. Bench, Fort Walton Beach
W4MBR - James H. Ellis, Vero Beach
N4MPH - Clyde Stansel, Vero Beach
W4MZA - John D. Rule, Merritt Island
K8RIF - Charles F. Stevens, Lakeland
WA9WKH - Daniel F. Rubinas, Brooksville



HAMS on CompuServe

Nancy Kott (WZ8C), Editor

CompuServe now has an unlimited connect time option! It seems to be running very efficiently. I connect to CompuServe four or five times during a typical day and have never had a busy signal. The unlimited connect time option is good news; it means we don't have to concern ourselves about getting in and out of the forums quickly. Stay around a while! Visit the different areas of the forums and check out what's happening. I'm sure you will find something of interest. If you are used to reading the threads on the Newsgroups, the gentlemanly conduct on the HamNet forum will surprise you. You won't have to hide the screen if the kids walk into the room!

The CW/Morse code section is a popular place for lively discussions. Some topics are perennial favorites. One such topic is "What's the best way to learn the code and/or increase my code speed?" Computer generated code practice programs are one option. To assist you in the search for the best code practice program for your needs, the HamNet library has several Morse code trainers available for downloading. Viruses aren't a concern when you download a file from CompuServe because the files are checked before being made available to the general public. Most of the programs are 'zipped' to make them faster to download. You'll need WinZip or other unzipping utility to open them up. WinZip 6.3 available in the Help and Information Section of the HamNet Library. One of my favorite Morse code training programs is called Ham University. I like it because it has a code learning game, hosted by Morse the Cat! In this game, the computer generates code using letter groupings you've selected. When you hear a letter, click your mouse over the square on a grid. The letter appears in the square. The object is to place the same letters side by side to form squares, pentodes or triodes. The more of the same letter that you cluster together, the more points you get. This game is different from other code games because you don't have to be a quick typist to play and get a high score. You just click the mouse when you recognize the letter to place it where you want it to go. Most of the code programs available are run in DOS, but there are a few designed to run under Win95. There are also a couple, Sparks and Morse Tutor to name two, for Macintosh computers and also some for Commodores. Getting on the air is the best way to get your code speed up, but computer programs can add variety and motivation. I don't think there are any real short cuts, no matter what system you use - it still boils down to practice, practice and more practice! Some of the comments from the latest "how do I increase my code speed" thread include advice from AI, K2DYH. AI uses Morse Academy on his computer. He says that since some letters such as "A" "E" and "I" are very simple to copy, he blanked them out on the alphabet list and just concentrated on the tough ones. It made quite a difference for him. Rich N2EYK learned the code using the audio tapes that are available from the ARRL and other sources. He feels the computer programs are the best way to increase your speed. With the computer programs, you can learn at your own pace, and if you start to confuse characters, you can get back on track by eliminating one of them from your study for a short time. Carmen, K1LKP, posted a note of encouragement to the forum members learning Morse. He writes, "Always remember that there is a period of discouragement when you are learning the Morse code. Don't give up! It's like the story of the 'Little Engine That Could' that said 'I think I can, I think I can, and then says I KNOW I CAN.' Try relaxing when you are doing your code practice. Again, most of all be POSITIVE." That sounds like good advice to me! Since this is the December issue, I'll leave you with a poem I found in Section 2 of the HamNet library. It's a classic, the author is unknown. I hope it helps get you in the Christmas mood!

TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS, AND ALL
THROUGH THE SHACK, NOT A METER WAS STIRRING,
NOT EVEN ON THE RACK, THE FINALS WERE HUNG BY
THE CHIMNEY WITH CARE, IN HOPES THAT ST. NICK
WOULD TUNE THEM RIGHT THERE.

THE CHILDREN WERE NESTLED ALL SNUG IN
THEIR BEDS, WHILE VISIONS OF MOONBOUNCE
DANCED IN THEIR HEADS; AND MAMA WITH HER
HANDHELD, AND I WITH A TRAP, HAD JUST SETTLED OUR
BRAINS WITH A HIGH VOLTAGE ZAP.

WHEN OUT BY THE TOWER, THERE ROSE SUCH A
CLATTER, I SPRANG FROM THE BENCH TO SEE WHAT
WAS THE MATTER. I FLEW TO THE WINDOW LIKE A HIGH
TENSION FLASH, TORE OPEN THE SHUTTERS AND
THREW UP THE SASH.

THE MOON ON THE BREAST OF THE NEW FALLEN
SNOW, GAVE THE GLOW OF TUBES OF DAYS LONG AGO.
WHEN WHAT TO MY WONDERING EYES SHOULD AP-
PEAR, BUT A MINIATURE SLEIGH, WITH MOBILE HAM
GEAR;

WITH A LITTLE OLD HAM, SO LIVELY AND QUICK, I
KNEW IN A MOMENT, IT MUST BE ST. NICK. MORE RAPID
THAN McELROY, HIS KEYING IT CAME AND HE LISTENED
AND HE TUNED AND CALLED THEM BY NAME;

"NOW DOTTER! NOW DITTER! NOW DX'EN!! AND
DASHER!, ON BUG! ON IAMBIC! ON KENT! AND BLUE
RACER! TO THE TOP OF THE SHACK, TO THE TOP OF
THE WALL! NOW DIT AWAY! DOT AWAY! DASH AWAY ALL!"

AS DRY DAYS BEFORE THE FIELD DAY DO FLY,
WHEN THEY MEET WITH THE FORECAST AND NEVER
COMPLY, SO UP ON THE SHACK TOP THE SIGNALS THEY
FLEW, WITH THE SLEIGH FULL OF GEAR, AND ST. NICHOLAS
TAS TOO.

QUICK AS A BAND OPENING I HEARD ON THE
ROOF, ANTENNA WORK BY A HAM ON THE HOOF, AS I
DREW IN MY HEAD AND WAS TUNING AROUND, DOWN
THE FEEDLINE CAME ST. NICHOLAS WITH A BOUND.

HE WAS ALL TANGLED IN COAX, FROM HIS HEAD
TO HIS FOOT AND HIS CHECKSHEETS WERE ALL TAR-
NISHED WITH ASHES AND SOOT. A BUNDLE OF GEAR
HE HAD FLUNG ON HIS BACK, AND HE LOOKED LIKE A
CONTESTER WITH A FRESH SIX PACK.

HIS HANDHELD- HOW IT CRACKLED! THE SIGNALS
WOULD VARY! HIS EQUIPMENT MADE NOISES, HIS QSO
QUITE MERRY! HIS DROLL LITTLE MOUTH WAS DRAWN
UP LIKE A MHO AND THE BEARD OF HIS CHIN WAS WHITE
AS SLOW SCAN SNOW.

THE STUMP OF COAX HE HELD TIGHT IN HIS
TEETH, AND THE SMOKE IT ENCIRCLED HIS HEAD LIKE
A WREATH. HE HAD A BROAD FACE AND A ROUND LITTLE
BELLY, THAT SHOOK WHEN HE LAUGHED, LIKE THE ROLL
OF A TELE.

HE SPOKE NOT A WORD, BUT WENT STRAIGHT TO
HIS WORK, AND TUNED ALL THE FINALS, THEN TURNED
WITH A JERK, AND KEYING HIS FINGER ASIDE OF HIS
NOSE AND GIVING A NOD, UP THE FEEDLINE HE ROSE.

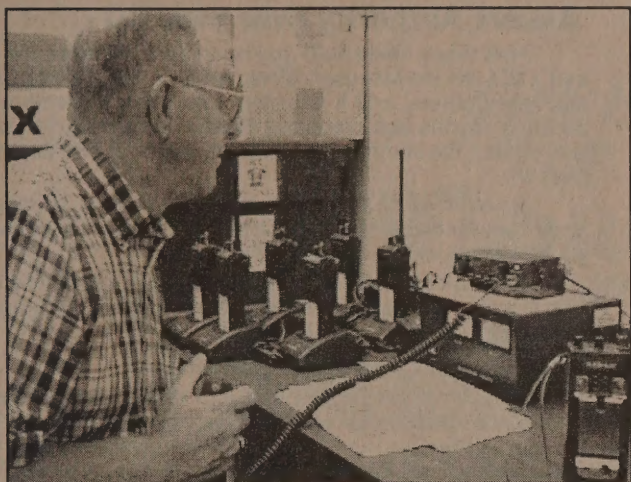
HE SPRANG TO HIS SLEIGH, HIS HANDHELD GAVE
A WHISTLE, AND AWAY THEY ALL FLEW, LIKE THE DOWN
OF A THISTLE. BUT I HEARD HIM EXCLAIM ERE HE FADED
OUT OF SIGHT;

"HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
AND GOOD DX TONIGHT"

See you on HamNet! If you hear me on the air, be
sure to give me a call. I welcome your comments and sug-
gestions for topics for future columns. My Email is
nancy@tir.com 73 Nancy

Ham radio operators ready in Hendry County

New 2-meter installed in Hendry Courthouse



Walter Wieland, of Port LaBelle tests new 2-meter equipment at Hendry County Emergency Management offices.

HENDRY COUNTY, FL. (October 10, 1997) - Hendry ham radio operators are standing by, ready to lend assistance for emergency communications duties should any situation arise, now that new 2-meter equipment has been installed in the Hendry County Courthouse, in Southwest Florida. The Hendry County Emergency Management office in LaBelle has installed amateur radio equipment, including a 2-meter Kenwood transceiver, power supply and yagi antenna in their offices on the third floor of the historic Courthouse. The purpose of the newly installed equipment is to cope with any emergency situations where normal telephone communications are not possible. Ham radio operator and Port LaBelle resident Walter J. Wieland, KA4HUI helped with the installation of the state-of-the-art communications equip-

ment at the office. This week he tested the equipment, placing radio calls to two other ham radio operators standing by in Clewiston and LaBelle. A large antenna was placed in the attic of the Hendry Courthouse by Wieland earlier in the month. According to Wieland, the Courthouse antenna site is an excellent one, providing both a location high above ground, at about 45 feet and a location protecting the antenna from winds and adverse weather. Amateur radio operators often play an important role in establishing emergency communication during floods, hurricanes, or civil disturbances. During an emergency situation, normal phone lines and cellular phone circuits may be overloaded or cellular antenna sites damaged from wind or weather, making normal communications impossible. Ham radio operators are licensed by the FCC and trained to provide volunteer communication capabilities when normal communication channels are incapacitated during emergency situations. Hams have the skills and equipment to quickly respond for setting up a communications facility should the need ever arise. Wieland says he has obtained permission from the Hendry Emergency Management office to also install ham radio equipment and antennas in the Clewiston area, but so far has not had anyone offer a site for installation of the equipment. Hendry county is a rural county with the county seat located on the western side of the county in Labelle, but its largest city, Clewiston is on the eastern side about 30 miles east. There are about 45 licensed hams in Hendry county. Anyone may reach Wieland at (941) 675-7784 for information about ham radio or anyone willing to donate a location for an emergency radio station on the east side of Hendry county. Wieland also encourages other ham radio operators to call in at 8 p.m. each Monday evening for an informal get together on a simplex 2-meter radio frequency of 144.900 mhz. Scanner listeners might hear some members of the informal radio net on the same frequency during morning hours, when the ham radio operators sometimes get together for informal conversation. From the Hendry-Glades Sunday News - Online at: <http://members.aol.com/kq4ym/news.html>



Pirate Brew Busts Brewer of Tampa

A well-known ham who thumbed his nose at the FCC was among those caught up in a Tampa, Florida, sweep by federal agents to shut down unlicensed broadcasting operations there. L. Douglas "Doug" Brewer, KC4HAZ, a General licensee of Temple Terrace, Florida, was detained when armed agents moved in to close down the pirates and confiscate equipment. Brewer is the trustee of several Amateur Radio repeaters in Tampa.

Brewer, 43, operated "The Party Pirate" from his home on 102.1 MHz. He told reporters that he was awakened November 19 at 6:30 AM by armed US marshals who handcuffed him. According to news reports, federal agents seized equipment from his home studio and from a remote broadcasting van that carried a "102.1 FM Pirate Radio" logo. They also dismantled a 150-foot tower. US marshals trucked away the equipment in a rental vehicle as Brewer looked on.

Known on the air as "Craven Moorehead," Brewer is said to have taunted FCC officials on and off the air and has refused to pay a \$1000 FCC fine. Brewer has hinted that he plans to return to the airwaves. The Party Pirate was the subject of an article earlier this year in The Wall Street Journal. Brewer's Web site includes pictures of FCC agents taking field strength readings outside his house.

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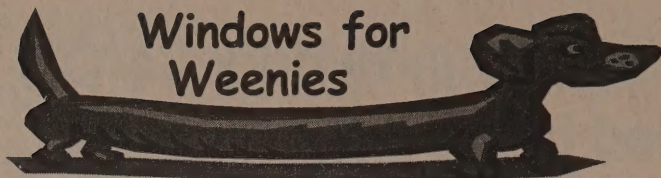
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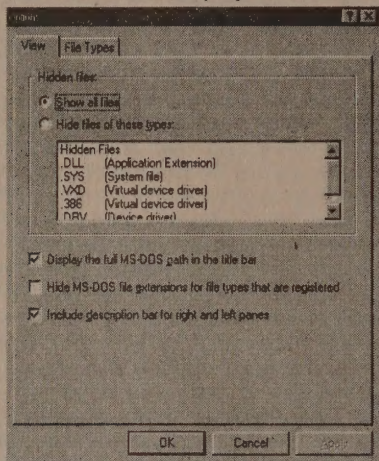


Windows for Weenies

Last month we were roaming around in the Windows Explorer. Well, let's roam some more.

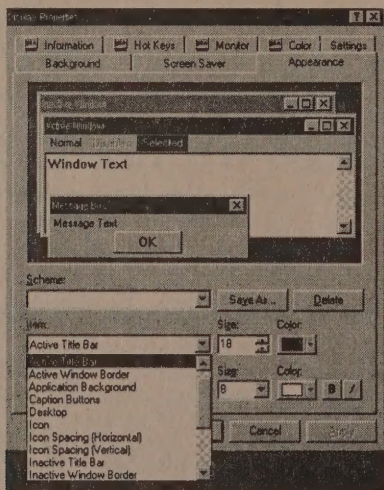
Do you become hopelessly lost when exploring the depths of a directory. After you've clicked a half dozen plus (+) signs and moved your scroll bar a few time, one isn't quite sure where he is. You can actually display the DOS path on your title bar. As with many neat options, this one is another that receives little or no publicity and is not activated when setting up.

Open your Windows Explorer and click on View and go to Options. Check the box, "Display the full MS-DOS path in



the title bar", click Apply, then OK and that's it.

With Windows95 being very accommodating to long file names, one could have some troubles with deeply rooted files with an abundance of long file or directory names. This situation can be eased (but not eliminated) by changing the font used to display the path. To do this, Right click on your desktop to access the properties command. Click on the Appearance Tab. On the left, toward the bottom, you'll see Item drop down window. In the list, locate the Active Title Bar and select it. At this time, the Font drop down window below will probably indicate a bolt type font. Find a suitable condensed or narrow font (ex. Arial Narrow) and deselect the Bold setting. Click Apply then OK. This will probably allow most all of your mile long paths to be displayed on the title bar.



Assert Authority over your CD

How many times have you been steamed after you insert a CD, like the Microsoft Windows95 Setup, US. Robotics and many others, and it launches into a fancy promo with dazzling sounds and graphics? Blast it..all you wanted was to look for a file and now you sit there stunned until it's completed.

Be stunned no more! When inserting a new CD, especially known offenders, before closing the drawer - hold down your Shift key while you close the drawer.

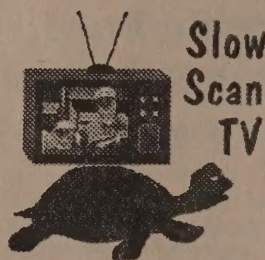
The so-called Auto Play feature will be reinstated the next time you open and close the drawer without holding down the Shift key.

Clarification and Mild Warning

In last month's Scoping out your Disk, I perhaps could have lulled some readers into a false sense of security. Bill Stewart, N4CRO of Fort Myers, Florida points out that the graphic showing Used space/Free space "...may show ALL red pie in spite of the fact that much of the drive is actually in use. In FAT32 any drive larger than 2.1 gigabytes with more than 2.1 gig free will not show anything used. i.e. ALL RED PIE."

Bill points out that my illustration demonstrates this technical point. Clearly a calculation shows that I'm using 44% of my hard disk while the pie is showing more like 20%. As he points out, one should not rely on a pie for important decisions on drives larger than 2.1 gigabytes. The editor thanks Bill for pointing out this oversight. For this he deserves a real apple pie with whipped cream. //ger

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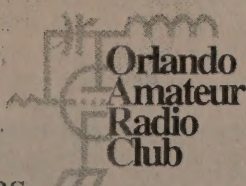
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Slow Scan Television and Weather Satellites

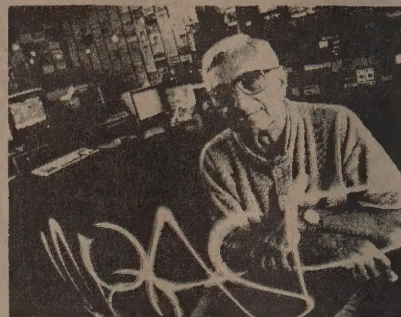
Fred Sharp, W8ASF

Well, winter is finally here in Florida. The days are 73 degrees and the nights a freezing 54! I thought my outside thermometer was stuck at 94! Somehow, cold crisp nights and starry skies make for better satellite reception. I remember taking my telescope outside on these clear nights and the view was not like the summertime. I have to do a little research on this subject, because I'm just reporting what "seems to be" not "what is" as far as satellite reception is in the wintertime.

ALL THE NEWS TODAY SEEMS TO BE ABOUT CHINA

On June 10th 1997, China's first geostationary satellite was launched and by June 21st it transmitted it's first visible light picture. It was startling and when portions of it were zoomed, they yielded very high resolution land pictures. More data as to Keplerians and actual technical data on the satellite is available on the website <http://ocean.gen.ou.edu/xhu/fy2.htm>. This geostationary satellite is Fengyun-2. It's name translates to "wind and cloud". Fengyun-2 makes the newest member of the geostationary list which also includes: Meteosat-6 (Europe), Goes 8 and Goes 9 (United States), Goms (Russia) and GMS 5 (Japan) I believe I mentioned in my last column, something about satellite tracking programs. There are many, but I have been using INSTANTRACK for years. Other new ones are MICRO ORBITER 3.0 and LOGSAT. I have just received LOGSAT and their motto is, "If it Orbits the Globe...LOGSAT can track it. A free demo version is available at <http://www.logsat.com>. Logsat is a Windows based graphical satellite tracking that supports five different map sets and has unlimited database capacity for satellite elements. It supports the Kansas City Tracker rotor interface and has in the package a complete satellite encyclopaedia. It includes a logbook manager for Ham Radio Stations, interactive sound tracking and response and independent time and data tracking. This is what the literature says. Here's what I have to say after using LOGSAT PROFESSIONAL VER.5.2. All satellites are available from the satellite encyclopaedia file, which can be updated into the program by downloading NASA 2 line data directly into the program. Naturally, Keplerians can be loaded one at a time if need be. Ah! I remember the old days when you downloaded Keplerian data one satellite at a time, and one letter or number at a time!! Directly from this listing you can go into

Mercator, Equidistant, Sinusoidal, Hammer or Orthographic projection. If you choose Text, it shows Azimuth, Range, Longitude & Latitude, Doppler Phase, etc of the selected satellite. All figures keep updating in real time. From this same menu you can view all the facts about a selected satellite, i.e. Launch Vehicle, Site, Date, etc. Icons in the opening top menu bar include: Open File, Save File, Print, Cut, Paste and Copy. The type of projection, (Mercator, etc) can also be selected from this bar which also includes ham radio icons for: View Logbook, Add Logbook Entry and Find a Call. From the bottom menu bar you can select the name of the satellite and it's Keplerian age, data on rotors (stopped or running) and the total number of satellites in the database. Many screen functions have sound. As an example if you select Mercator projection, it is accompanied by a voice announcing the same. When I first got Windows 95, I could'n't see the reason for the Microsoft song playing as the program opened. Later on I found it an advantage to let me know the screen was up without looking.

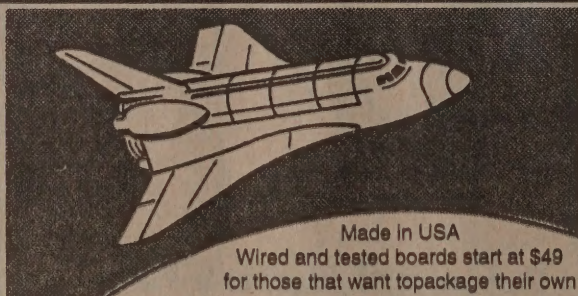


Comparing Logsat with Instantrack, They are both marvelous programs. They both support Kansas City Tracker, they both can track a satellite in real time. I think that Logsat has quite a few new features. So as not to go one to one I prefer to review Instantrack in another column. Tricky; that way I can let you, the reader decide by comparing the two articles. Mom said I was smart!

The satellites and their frequencies that I gave you last issue are still current. As far as updating Keplerian data, I would suggest once a month, so as to keep accurate. Three months was

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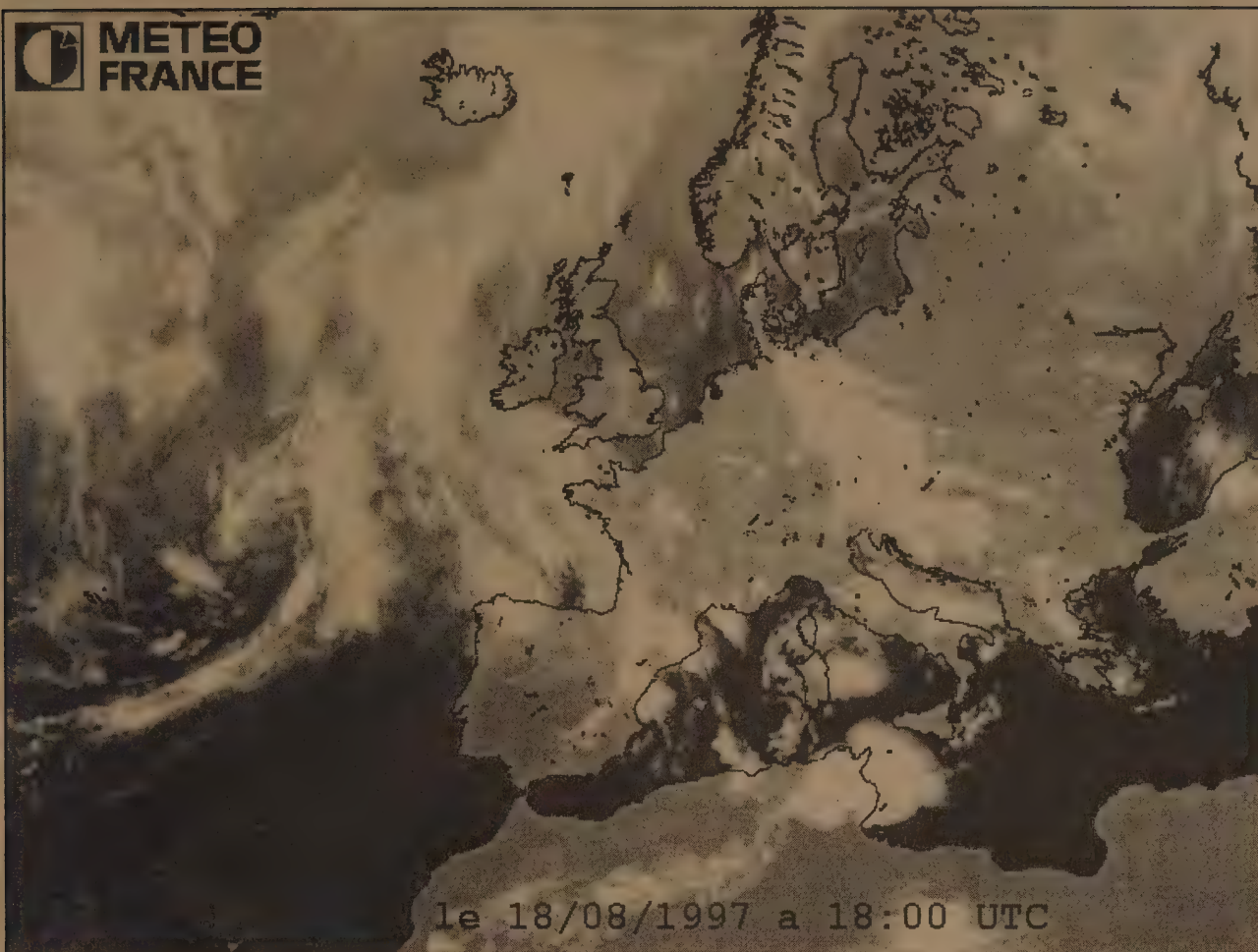
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Tom (W6ORG) & MaryAnn (WB6YSS)



formerly felt to be enough, but a minute is a lot to be off in satellite tracking.

Last month I wrote about the Winweather program and gave you it's website. I didn't have a picture using the program, but I have one now of Europe. Actually, it's false colored with the land brown, clouds white and water blue. We reprint it here just to give you an idea of the fairly good resolution, considering it's APT and this printing is probably the 10th dub!

SLOW SCAN TELEVISION

The best thing I can say about SSTV at this time is that were finally starting to hear a little DX and qso's are lasting more than 3 minutes before the band konks out. We are definately in the upswing of the 11 year cycle and all band conditions can only get better. When you start to hear both sides of a qso, you know things are getting better. I have written an article on getting started in Weather Satellite reception in the past issue, and the work has already been done for me as far as getting started in SSTV. John Langner WB2OSZ has written an excellent manual on SSTV. The history of SSTV, images, simple interfaces and much more. John developed the PASOKON system, version 3.0 being the latest. For a newcomer, I'd suggest downloading

John's Manual and the free software he has to offer. All you need to start in SSTV is a very reasonably priced simple interface. Get on his website at <http://www.ultranet.com/~sstv>. **SOME NEW THINGS**

A 10 meter net is now on the air on 28,680 Mhz every Saturday at 8 PM. The net is from Athens, Alabama. Listen for KK4QI.

Another slow scan net in St. Paul, MN on 2 meters every Wednesday at 8 PM on 144.490. There is a SSTV repeater on the air from Belgium,

ON4VRB. To access it you must send a 1750 Hz tone. If contacted, the repeater will send an answering tone. Send your picture within 8 seconds of this tone. After your transmission is finished, the repeater will retransmit your picture on the same frequency in any mode. The repeater will transmit a beacon picture every 15 minutes without activity.

Hopefully, a little more SSTV news next time. Sorry....The Dinner will be Free!!

Ciao Fred Sharp W8ASF

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Shareware Reviews

Ronnie Cohen, KF4GHG

Great Circle Map By Ronnie Cohen KF4GHG

You don't have to be a DXer to enjoy Roger Hedin's Great Circle Map for Windows program. I spent several enjoyable hours trying this program without realizing how much time had passed. Obviously DXers will reap the most benefits from this program.

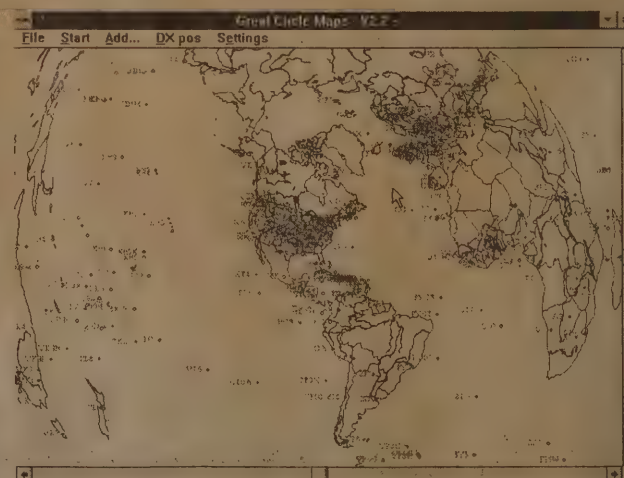
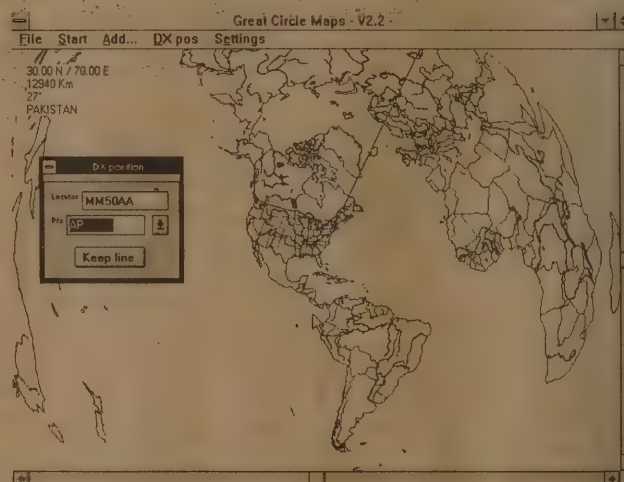
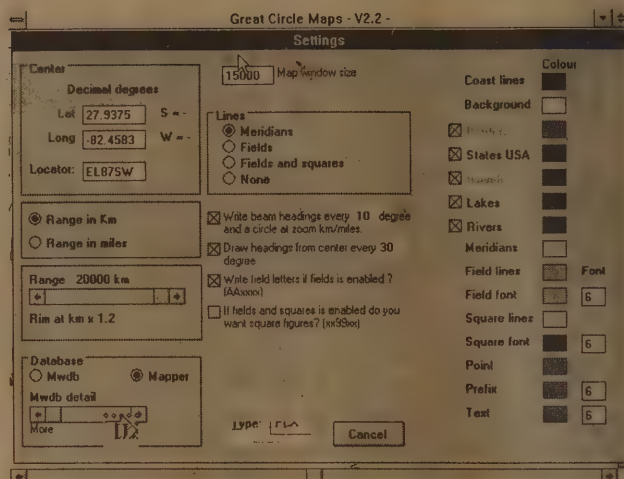
Great Circle Map is a full featured Windows 3.1, application with a straight forward user interface and pull down menus. This program displays a fully customizable azimuthal map projection. These maps are based on 1985 CIA data, can be subdivided by meridian, fields, or fields with squares. The users enters a latitude / longitude and the program calculates and displays an equidistant azimuthal maps with the user's Qth as the center. You can view the entire globe or as many miles/kilometers from your location as you wish. Major counties, states, rivers, and lakes are drawn with user defined colors. Users can also define the font size, range units, and beam heading degrees.

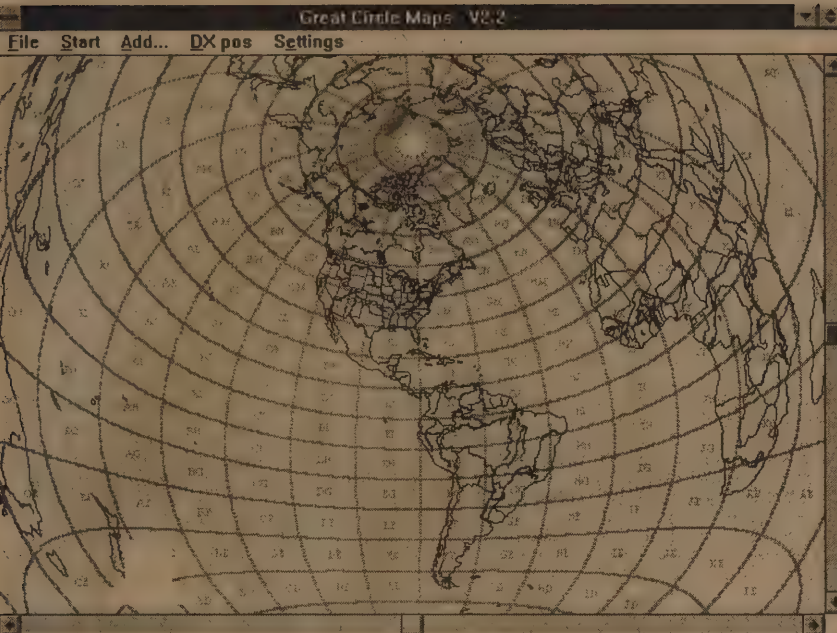
Propagation beams are drawn from the user's latitude / longitude to any location. You select a location prefix, and Great Circle Map draws a line to that location. The program comes with data for over 400 world wide locations and you can update this list with your own favorite places. Mr. Hedin provided a Qbasic program to help users update the location data file with several sites. After drawing the bearing line between your Qth and the chosen prefix, Great Circle Map displays the destination's name, latitude / longitude, distance and bearing from your location. You can remove the bearing line or leave the line and continue to another location.

Great Circle Map's output options is one of its strongest features. Maps can be printed directly from the screen or through a standard print option. The screen print option does not produce a high quality map. However, the second print option does produces a high quality maps and it can have a point, prefix or text added before the print job is finished. Maps can be saved in BMP format, that can be retrieved later, imported to other programs, or converted to icons. The BMP map could be used to create unique personal-ized QSL cards.

The program features on-line help that is accessible with the F1 function key. It is not an extensive help file and does not feature any search, hypertext or index options. However, the help file does have all the information you need to successfully use the program.

Great Circle Map operates an 80386 system, with a Hard Drive and VGA monitor. You will need a printer to produce maps. I tested the program with Windows 3.1, but it





should work with Windows 95. Great Circle Map is Freeware so there is no registration fee to pay the author. However, if you do try the program you may want to drop him a line with any suggestions or comments. For more information about Great Circle Map or for a free disk catalog and coupon, please contact Mom 'N' Pop's Software <ASP>, P.O. Box 15003-HD, Spring Hill, Florida 34609, (352) 688-9108, email: momnpop@gate.net.

FCC Proposes Requiring V-chips to be Included in Computers

On September 25, the Federal Communications Commission released a proposed rulemaking on V-chip technology recommending that the devices also be installed in every computer capable of receiving video signals. The V-chip is required by the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to be installed in every new television set.

The proposed rule applies "to any computer that is sold with TV receiver capability and a monitor that has a viewable picture size of 13 inches or larger." It applies "regardless of whether it is designed to receive video programming that is distributed only through cable television systems, MDS, DBS, or by some other distribution system."

For future technologies such as Digital TV, the FCC proposal recognizes that many will be built into computers:

[W]e propose that all DTV receiver boards themselves (regardless of whether they are sold with a computer and monitor with a viewable picture size of 13 inches or larger) be required to include program blocking capability.

Congress has been critical of the proposal. Rep. Edward Markey (D-MA) told the Washington Times that the V-chip was not intended for computers and Rep. Billy Tauzin (R-LA) remarked, "Next, they'll try and put V-chips in Gameboys." Comments on the proposal are due on November 24. Interested persons can email their comments to vchip@fcc.gov.

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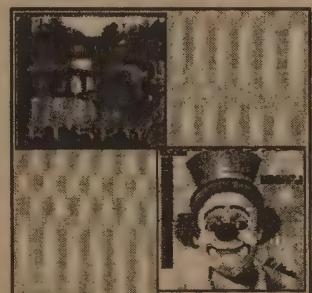
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right image

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This has been a very good year for Region 2 AF MARS, starting with several members taking over the job of SMDs for their states, and a very bad forecast from the University of Colorado that caused some concern that 1997 would have a terrible hurricane season (which so far has been incorrect, thankfully), an excellent conference in Virginia in August, and ending with well-defined and still-developing plans for supporting the FEMA and other agencies with our communications skills and assets..

Chief Collins recently announced the appointment of Harry L. Marsters II, AFA1PZ, to the position of AF MARS National Emergency Coordinator, owing to his aggressiveness and knowledge of the job. He is authorized the billet call of AFN1EC. Marsters was most recently the Region 1 EC and is a SMSGT in the ANG. We will soon have a CONUS ECOM plan formulated by Harry that will clear up many questions.

I recently noticed on a military website that GRECIAN FIREBOLT 98 is scheduled for this coming year, and I assume we'll hear more on it later.

My apologies to Ben Sager, AFA2OS, of Fredericksburg, VA. I meant to mention in the last couple of articles that Ben has been appointed Virginia MARS Emergency Coordinator. It also has been reported that Ben has been working very closely with ARES/RACES groups and the VA EOC, making some very good plans for forthcoming exercises and emergency drills.

EEL FORM INFO...(from Larry, AFF2N) "Let me remind you that the EEL form is a guide ONLY to help you prepare the EEL report. If there is a minor error on the form, a correction can be made. Don't throw away outdated forms — they can still be used. There is some confusion regarding this EEL form —

hopefully the situation will be resolved shortly. Also, (John) AFA2WJ has been having training on 2S1 on how to fill out the form. Again, let me state: the form itself is an internal document and is not to be mailed." "Also, the "DE" in the header is an operator's notation ONLY and should NOT be read when transmitting EEL messages on the air. This is for voice only - packet and RTTY modes have a place for the "DE" routing and is standard procedure."

MILITARY/HAM COORDINATION FREQUENCIES... Speaking of RACES and ARES, we will be working together with those folks much of the time in the future. I am sure that many MARS members, such as myself, are also members of one or both of the services. I recalled and am presently verifying the actual language about coordination frequencies for military and civilian groups in the event of an emergency. If anyone has had an experience in using the following frequencies previously, please advise.

The following is an excerpt from the ARES regs, and is published here for information gathering only:

(b) The frequency bands and segments and emissions authorized to the control operator are available to stations transmitting communications in RACES on a shared basis with the amateur service. In the event of an emergency which necessitates the invoking of the President's War Emergency Powers under the provisions of Section 706 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §606, RACES stations and amateur stations participating in RACES may only transmit on the following frequencies: (1) (Several frequencies listed) (2) The 1.25 m, 70 cm, and 23 cm bands;" and " (3) The channels at 3.997 and 53.30 MHz may be used in emergency areas when required to make initial contact with a military unit and for communications with military stations on matters requiring coordination."

Some region and state coordinators may or may not know of this, but it bears checking into, verifying, and possibly adding to their OPLANs.

HURRICANE WATCH NET...

Whenever a hurricane is within 300 miles of land in the northern western hemisphere, the Hurricane Watch Net is operational on 14325. The Hurricane Watch Net provides communication between the National Hurricane Center and the affected areas. Hurri-

cane reconnaissance aircraft (hurricane hunters) now operate primarily on US Global High Frequency System (GHFS) frequencies. The best frequencies to monitor are those guarded by MacDill and Ascension. After initial contact on one of the published GHFS frequencies, listen closely for them to switch to a non-published frequency to pass traffic. Aircraft call signs are "GULL-nn" or "TEAL-nn" (where nn is a 2-digit number), "NOAA-42", "NOAA-43 and "NOAA-49". The GULL and TEAL aircraft are based at Keesler AFB, Biloxi, MS. The NOAA aircraft are based at MacDill AFB, Tampa, FL.

DOMS NEW EMAIL ADDRESS...doms@fema.gov -

MARS HQ ADDRESS CHANGES...Change the office symbol from "SYXM" to "GCGS". Everything else remains the same. Willie Brown's Email address remains the same but the Chief's Email has changed to: ray.collins@scott.af.mil..

PACKET UPDATE... From AFF2C: Thanks to the many efforts of several of our packet oriented members, we have seen an increase in our packet capable stations. It is necessary that we develop as many packet stations as we can to handle the tasking that will be placed upon us in the future of MARS. It appears that all the modes that we currently have will remain although some of our nets may be changed to lesser importance. We will continue with our HF voice and teletype nets for traffic. We hope to have our major traffic arteries on digital nets in the future however. PACTOR may prove to be another important avenue for our emergency traffic. We currently have several members active on this mode. If any member has questions about getting started on any of the digital modes, they should contact AFF2K or any of our active packet members. The CONUS VHF packet linkup is still under study and some news will be coming forth on that soon.

READINESS...Are you ready for an emergency? We may not think of it or expect it, but an emergency can be dropped on us in a split second. My first "emergency" was in 1957, and I remember it today as if it just occurred. I was a 'slick-sleeved' private in the National Guard. We were having first aid training taught by the First Sergeant, and had applied bandages and splints to dummies using moulage-set artificial wounds. As we listened to his next topic the local wino, Jack, had wandered into the room and was making comments and disrupting the class. The 1SGT tried

Army MARS

Lorraine S. Matthew (AAA9PR), Editor

to make him leave or be quiet, but wasn't getting anywhere. He issued a final ultimatum, which was largely ignored. The 1SGT then pulled a shotgun and fired at Jack, blowing him out of the chair, and "red" flew everywhere.

I froze, not believing what I had seen. Others ran out of the building. Some went home. In a few minutes, the pool-room crowd had heard of the shooting and were on their way. The local movie stopped and all came to see what had happened. My small hometown had just experienced a very big happening!

In the meantime, the 1SGT had gotten the braver soldiers (not me) to help him patch up Jack's wounds and stop the bleeding. When they finally could hold their laughter no longer and Jack got up and took off his "wounds" and fake blood, the ones that were still there realized it was a pre-arranged, very clever introduction to a combat emergency... I wonder how today's training in emergency conditions compares to that!

DID YOU KNOW... That Mr. Heath started his business selling kit (real) airplanes? After his death in an aircraft accident, others carried on until after WW2 when they purchased several thousand small CRTs at a military depot auction and devised an electronic oscilloscope kit to market. It caught on, and the Heathkit line of products has been a success story with few equals. With its introduction of amateur radio products, Heath brought tens of thousands of new hams into the hobby.

Throughout fifty years they developed and sold hundreds of kit products (nearly 40,000 HW-101 transceivers alone - more of a single product than even Mr. Collins). In the first ten years they sold half a million VTVM kits; by the early 90's more than 2 million had been sold. They developed many other products that captured the imagination of youngsters who could afford and build them, but the heyday of the kit radio and other electronic kits has gone, and the impact of fewer and fewer ticket upgrades and new people in the hobby is probably the result of it's passing.

The entire staff of USAF MARS wish you and your families a very merry holiday season. Thank you for your support this past year, and may good health and prosperity be yours throughout the coming year.

AIM HIGH!

DISCLAIMER: This is not an official United States Air Force release, and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Air Force or the MARS.

As all Army MARS members approach the holidays, we must all remember that there are thousands of military personnel who will not be home to enjoy the warmth and the cheer so familiar to most of us. They will be stationed all over the globe making sure that we all remain safe and secure in our homes. We must remember the families from whom these thousands are missing.

Army MARS has the opportunity each year to serve these thousands of fine people through Operation: Holidays. Operation: Holidays 1997 is the sixth annual good cheer campaign in which everyone in the radio community and outside of it (especially those people who are not in radio) are encouraged to send radiogram messages with holiday greetings. If civilians are sending messages to civilians, the National Traffic System on the Amateur bands stands ready and able to relay that message to its destination. If there is a military (active or retired) person involved in the message, it goes as a MARSgram using the MARS (Military Affiliate Radio System) traffic system. In both cases, the messages are sent FREE of charge and the senders may send as many messages as he or she desires. As a starting point, LTC Daniel R. Judy, USASC G3, Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations, will send out the first holiday MARSgram from the USASC MARS station on Friday 21 November in time for Thanksgiving greetings. Army MARS asks its members to become as visible as possible to the people in their localities. Encourage this sending of messages via radio. Army MARS invites the Amateur community (of which MARS members are a part) to do the same thing. This might even be an excellent radio club program designed to bring joy to the recipients of the service and to bring visibility and recognition to the club for its service. In both cases, such traffic also hones the capabilities of both groups for emergency communications.

Operation: Holidays reflects somewhat the idea that Chief, Army MARS Robert Sutton has often ex-

pressed that Army MARS is a family. I knew from experience that close relationships could develop through net contacts and working with other MARS operators on exercises, real emergencies, and other projects that develop. I now know, however, just how strong the Army MARS extended family really is.

Robert "Matt" Matthew/AAA9MR became a silent key on 5 November. Wonderful cards, beautiful letters, heartfelt messages via radio and e-mail poured into my home. I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank all of you for your love and support. There is no way that such a thank you is adequate, but, believe me when I say that my gratitude is genuine and that your support has and still is carrying me through a most difficult time. Thank you, my MARS extended family.

"Matt" was the talent behind all the graphics and color and posters that have been an integral part of the public relations packages that have been used all over the world. We operated everything in our lives as a team — so much so that when Chief Sutton asked me if Operation: Holidays was Matt's idea or mine, I honestly could not say. One of us would get a germ of an idea. We would kick it around together, and emerge with a cohesive whole with which to work.

Thus it was with Operation: Holidays. Chief Sutton suggested that we in Army MARS dedicate this year's Operation: Holidays campaign to Matt and to all the other silent keys who have left their indelible mark on Army MARS. I think this is a most fitting memorial to these fine people. The success for the operation rests with each Army MARS member.

Pat Lane/AAA9CE closed the Chief's Net on 14 November with "Hang in there, Lori. You'll make it." I could feel a tangible surge of strength as though the entire Army MARS family were saying those same words of encouragement.

It is the Army MARS family spirit which will keep Army MARS ... Proud, Professional, and Ready.

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Internet Update

Around The World In 80 Scenes

NASA has a great Web site that will take you around the world, to all the major cities. The site includes 80 images photographed from Landsat satellites and includes some images of areas before and after major events. Such examples are images of Baghdad, before and after the Gulf War, and Naples, Florida, before, during and after Hurricane Andrew. World Wide Web: http://observe.ivv.nasa.gov/nasa/gallery/world/world_1.html

Power Tools Information And Advice

This new Web site is designed for users of any of the various power tools available. Included is an e-mail newsletters, tool advice from an expert, a free searchable database for finding a local factory service and more. Each day the Tool Doctor answers over 50 e-mailed questions about the use and application of any tool, a newsletter that offers advice, whether it be cordless drills or building a deck, and much more. World Wide Web: <http://www.coastaltool.com>

The George Bush Presidential Library

Visitors to the online extension to the recently opened George Bush Presidential Library can consult documents, information and photographs spanning the years that President Bush occupied the White House. There are special sections on George and Barbara Bush plus sections for the public papers, photographs and museum of the ex-President. There are lots of images and documents detailing events during the presidency, which included the Gulf conflict with Iraq. World Wide Web: <http://www.csd.tamu.edu/bushlib/>

Language Isn't A Problem Anymore

Helping to end language problems in cyberspace, Comprendre is a new service that offers real time online translations. The service is currently in a free 90-day beta test period, so now is the perfect time to check it out! The service provides real-time translation services for Web pages to and from English and French, German, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish. More languages are planned to be added next year. World Wide Web: <http://comprendre.globalink.com>

AnyWho

AnyWho is a new directory service offering access to over 90 million United States white pages telephone listings for people, businesses, and government offices. "If it's in the phone book, we have it," boasts the service. A special feature of the service is the ability for you to update your own listing, or add or delete one. World Wide Web: <http://www.anywho.com>

All About The Abacus

You might be a wiz with a personal computer but how much do you know about the simplest computer of all - the abacus? This page includes information about how to use an abacus, differences between the Japanese, Chinese and Aztec abacus, Java source code for an electronic abacus and more! World Wide Web: <http://www.ee.ryerson.ca:8080/~elf/abacus/>

How Common Is Your Name?

Among the reams of data the US Census Bureau collects and generates from the national census is the most popular names in the United States. You can find that information here, and discover just how common your name is. Three listings are available: by surname, male first name and female first name. World Wide Web: <http://www.census.gov/ftp/pub/genealogy/www/freqnames.html>

New Online Comic Strip

Gibbleguts is a new electronic magazine that is described, in site promotion, as the "funniest cartoon humor since the FarSide." Check out any of the several online volumes to find out if that's true. You can also subscribe to the ezine channel on Pointcast and get new issues automatically. World Wide Web: <http://www.gibbleguts.com>

Helping You Search The Internet Better

The Internet Tutorials page of the University of Albany Libraries includes lots of interest to Internet users, and has updated content on search engines. First, choose a search engine with the "How to Choose a Search Engine or Research Database" guide then check the "Searching the Internet: Recommended Sites and Search Techniques" guide to find some sites. Finally, conduct your search with the aid of the "Quick Reference Guide to Search Engine Syntax." World Wide Web: <http://www.albany.edu/library/internet/>

Discovering Ancient Cultures In The Andes

Five centuries ago, a teenage girl surrendered her life to the gods. Inca priests buried her and she lay in peace atop Mount Ampato in Peru. In 1995, her ice-preserved body was stumbled upon by anthropologist Johan Reinhard. This site outlines the story of how she was found and a special virtual autopsy reveals how she died. Reinhard is now back in the Andes and you can follow his current expedition from the same site. World Wide Web:

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/features/97/andes/>

Elvis Reincarnated As Dog, And Other News

The National Enquirer, which launched online a month ago, says it has been the most successful ever online launch for a newspaper. It says 2.2 million page views were logged by readers in the first month online, checking out the magazine's gossip and celebrity news. "Our site gets the numbers because we have not simply repurposed the material from the newspaper online," according to the editor. World Wide Web: <http://www.nationalenquirer.com>

New Software - VivoActive Player 2.0

The new VivoActive PowerPlayer has just been released and features the ability to record streaming video clips on your local hard disk. Other functions include the ability to zoom to twice normal size and better quality audio. The software is commercial, available for \$12.95, and more details are available from the Web site. World Wide Web: <http://www.vivo.com/products/pwrplay/index.htm>

Santa Watch

There's still a month left until Christmas and we've tried to hold off on Christmas sites for a couple of weeks but now it's time to start listing them! Everyday, under the "Santa Watch" banner you can find Christmas related sites as the Christian nations of the world, and many others, prepare for the biggest holiday of the year. The first site comes from the Holy Redeemer Catholic School, in Canada, and includes links to sites on Hanukkah, details on the origins of Christmas, the story of Santa, Christmas in Iceland and more. World Wide Web: <http://www.crcssb.edu.on.ca:1080/~red/html/christ.htm>

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Owned and operated by KC4UFI (Jerry Russell), and KD4MIW (Sharon Russell).

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Pelican Chapter 128

The Pelican Chapter 128 held their October meeting at Stacey's Buffet with 24 members and guests in attendance. Special Guests were Walter Supina N3WS and his lady Aura Lee N3EPB.

Treasurer Don Bice W4PCO reported \$1361.50 in the bank with all bills paid and so far there are 33 tickets sold for the Pelican Big Brown Bird Chicken Picnic. Bill Bell, K4AVH gave a report on the QCWA National Convention held in Kansas City on October 10-13. He reported that attendance was down a little and that no associate memberships will be allowed at the National Level. Also reported was that John Edel K8LBZ was reported to be seriously ill.

Pelican Secretary Jay K9BSL said that help is needed to man the QCWA table at the FGARC hamfest at the State Fairgrounds expo hall on 22-23 November. - by J. Frederick Strom, K9BSL - Secretary.

Gator Chapter 32

The meeting was attended by 37 members and guests. A visitor this month was John Pawlowski K1GSI. National Headquarters thanked the Chapter for its donation in memory of Vince Schauler W0MZX and Helen Schauler. Doc Appleton K4RR and Art Kunst W3WM also sent their regards to the Chapter members.

Blanche Randles W4GXZ presented the program on her experiences in ham radio. Blanche was first licensed in 1954. She used to run phone patches for servicemen stationed along the Dew Line during the cold war and was also able to talk to her OM Wes W4COW who also worked there. Blanche spoke of her association with YLRL, her joining QCWA, helping establish QCWAW for YL Hams and Chapter 120 Quarter Century Wireless Women. She has served various committees and held many offices in YLRL and QCWAW. Blanche has received many awards and accolades for her years of dedicated service.

Wes Randles W4COW reported on his attendance at the National Convention in Kansas City, MO.

The nominating Committee report from Chairman Fred Leedham W1WOX proposed: President - Frank Obenauf W2IAJ, Vice President - Don Bice W4PCO, Secretary - Bart Bridge W2ZYQ, Treasurer - Bill Carpenter WA2KFH and Director - Bill Bell K4AVH. Art Monsees W4BK asked that he be removed as a director. The BOD will appoint a replacement. The nominations were closed.

The program for December will be

a short talk by Mr. Ron Dickman, Executive Director of Religious Community Services Inc. For many years, the Gator Chapter has supported R.C.S. with a Christmas check gift. Individual donations are matched by the Chapter treasury.

The Gator Chapter meeting is held the first Saturday of every month at Stacey's Buffet 1451 Missouri Ave. in the Midway Shopping Plaza, Clearwater. Lunch starts at 11:00 with the meeting at noon. See you there. - by Bart Bridge W2ZYQ - Secretary.

Hernando Chapter 148

The October meeting was held on Wednesday the 15th and was attended by 15 members and guests. The next get together will be on Wednesday November 5th at McKethan Park on Rt. 41. The regular monthly meeting will be at Pier 688 on Wednesday November 19th at 11:30.

S.E. Florida Chapter 12

Our September meeting had a low turnout of members because many people of our chapter were traveling.

Tom Glaze KC4SUS reported on his recent success on 6 and 10 meters

into Europe and to the south. Tom explained that the solar flux rates were above 100 for a number of days. Tom worked quite a bit of DX on both bands. It appears that our new Sun Spot Cycle is at last starting up. Thanks Tom for a very good impromptu program. Our October meeting was conducted by Andy Clark because there were no officers present. Allie our VP was ill and her hubby, Dan Laxon our President, did not want to leave her alone. The meeting went into an informal session, talking about the old airline days. Andy Clark and George Masterson conducted a joint program on airline communications with AIRINC and Pan American Airways.

Mrs Offenhutter XYL of SK Stan K4BLM was also present thanking us for her welcome and also to George and Ann Masterson for bringing her to our meeting.

John Beck W4COG advised us that they are moving to Palm City, Florida. We will miss John and Joyce and hope they will be back to visit once in awhile.

My thanks to Betty and Andy Clark for their assistance with this information. Cliff W2MHF.

REMINDER:

Please consider checking into the QCWA national nets. The CW net is on Wednesday at 1000ET on 7035. The SSB net is on Sunday at 2000ET on 14,347.



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Florida Traffic Nets

Florida Mid-day Traffic Net (FMTN)

The Florida Mid-day Traffic Net continues to improve in the month of October. By the time you read this, Halloween will be over and there will be only a few short weeks until Thanksgiving and the Christmas, Chanukah, and New Years Season. Now is the time to start thinking about getting those Thanksgiving/Holiday messages to all of your friends and relatives. You'll want to make sure that you have the proper addresses, area codes and telephone numbers handy when you start making up your Traffic.

Norm-K4RBR has started checking-in again with us after taking lock, stock, and barrel, and moving up to Lake Placid. It's great to have you back, Norm. To our Net regulars, I say thanks again for a GREAT month in October.

It seems as though the propagation is improving daily. Heavy static has lessened, and the sun-spot index has shown great improvement in just a few short weeks. Did I say short? Better band conditions have made our Net more efficient. We seem to be able to send more Traffic in the Winter months. It certainly makes things a lot more enjoyable on the air.

FMTN has had a wonderful month in October. Through the dedication and perseverance of ALL of our Net Members we have done even better than hoped. The Stats were 406 check-ins, 276 pieces of Traffic, and 603 minutes of time in 31 sessions. That's almost 9 messages average per day! GREAT WORK, everyone!

The Florida Mid-day Traffic Net (FMTN) meets daily on or about 7242.00KHZ at 1700Z. We have a 5 or 10-minute warm-up period before the Net so that stations can check-in, list their Traffic, and chat a while before the Net begins. You're all invited to join us ANY-DAY, EVERY-DAY, ON MID-DAY! 73/88 Rich-KA2YZM, Net Manager.

Southeast Florida Traffic Net (SEFTN)

October marked the tenth full year during which more than one thousand members checked into SEFTN each month — a hundred and twenty consecutive months. Quite appropriately, Jim, KD4GR, who has been the net manager for many of those years was the one thousandth checkin. Thanks are due to all of the hams who checked in — particularly to the "regulars." By encouraging hams to check in "with or without traffic," SEFTN is a comfortable place for those of us who want to participate in ham radio but feel rather shy if we don't know what to talk about. So please do keep "coming by," even if you have no traffic.

John, KD4HGU; Al, KS4JK; Harry, KD4JMV; Willie, KC4JNM; Ford, KB4WBY; and Harold, KT4XK had perfect attendance at the evening sessions of October.

The semi-annual picnic will be held Saturday, December 6th, at Veteran's Park in Lauderhill. Bob, KCFZHF and his lovely wife Jan, have hosted these picnics for several years, have always done a splendid job, and deserve the thanks of all the net members. Harold, KT4XK and Pam, KF4IDM will host the December outing, giving Bob and Jan a well deserved break.

Every Tuesday evening at 6:30 a member of the net gives "Traffic Tips, a presentation on how to properly handle NTS

traffic. October Tips included: "How to deliver a message to the recipient" and "The Other Florida Traffic Nets" (KD4GR), and "Amateur Timekeeping" (WB4PAM). If you have a traffic related question you would like to hear answered, let KD4GR know.

Don't forget Ford, KB4WBY's, electronic SEFTN newsletter at

<<http://www.geocities.com/researchtriangle/7146>>.

SEFTN meets daily at 1130 and 1800 local time on 146.19/79 Mhz, the Motorola Amateur Radio Club repeater. The alternate frequency is 146.31/91, the Broward Amateur Radio Club repeater. Both sessions send representatives to the Section level NTS nets. New members are always welcome, so please join us. No experience in traffic handling is necessary, and all properly licensed Hams are welcome.

October SEFTN Statistics

62 Sessions

(Total/Average)

Session	Stations	Messages	Minutes
EARLY	374/12.1	67/2.2	404/13.0
LATE	1038/33.5	244/7.9	1756/56.6
TOTALS	1412/45.6	311/10.0	2160/69.7

73, Charles, WB4PAM

Charles T. Brusca p041732b@pb.seflin.org

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W4IHW checks in to the Knights

The Knights of the Kilocycle, amateur radio's oldest net, was organized on Christmas Day, 1929, and is now celebrating its 67th year. The Knights meet every Sunday morning at 7:30 on 3910 Kilocycles. Since 1929 there have been 547 permanent memberships awarded to amateur operators. The Knights always welcomes new members. A membership certificate is earned after five consecutive weekly check-ins to the net. And here goes the Knightly News:

W4IHW, Irv checked in last month after many years absence. Irv joined the Knights in 1977 and now lives south of Lake Placid. Eighty-five year old Irv just bought a new TenTec transceiver and is sounding very good. A former CAA and then FAA employee, Irv has been retired from government service for many decades and is now enjoying himself on his new rig talking with old friends. Irv received his first ham license in 1938. He worked with Knight members Andy, W4IYT and Floyd N4FL back in the 1950s in Miami. Irv reports he's been also checking in with the FAA net on Sunday mornings at 8:30 on 3.955 mhz.

Floyd, N4FL of Ft. Lauderdale mentioned recently that he's coming up on his 87th birthday and started in radio in 1920. He commented that when he started in radio there were not even vacuum tubes, but only spark gap transmitters.

The Knights should be welcoming K4WLR as a new member after he makes his fifth check-in in December. Will lives in West Palm Beach and the Knights will be glad to initiate him into the membership.

Dorothy, N4TXT of Springhill is back home now, recuperating from a recent fall, and is now making her regular Sunday morning check-ins from Englewood.

Marion, KC4MFT of New Port Richey and Doug N4SLS celebrated their anniversary last month while Doug has been to Atlanta to visit his mother who is celebrating 102 years. For a few weeks, Marion was reporting in with a very weak signal and had made it to the top of the roll call after having made more consecutive check ins than any other member. She'll stay at the top for five weeks and then relinquish the honored spot to the next member in line.

Stan W4JKK, of Sebastian, has been out fishing in his backyard lake but still hasn't found that perfect lure yet. Stan reports he met up with members Jay and Doc at the recent Tampa hamfest and had a nice visit.

Bob, K4VDX is doing a fine job announcing the coming hamfests weekly for net information at the beginning of each Knight's net.

Jim, NX2II of Englewood has changed his call sign from KA4QYT. Jim explains that the call sign has double significance. If you read the II as numbers you have the tail numbers of Lindberg's historic Spirit of St. Louis, NX211. And he adds, the last to letters are what he says when his wife calls, "aye, aye."

Alan, KJ9N has returned from a trip to England and is also running for the QCWA board of directors.

Wendy, W4UCL of Lutz had some leg surgery taking a few days in the hospital.

The net recently had a lively discussion about the prevalence of computer hardware showing up at ham fests. Most spoke out against the practice, preferring to see more ham gear and less miscellaneous equipment not directly related to amateur radio.

The beginning of the sun spot cycle and the sun activity picking up, after making a record 118 on the solar flux index in November, and then subsequently sliding back down again. This pattern has been happening the last few months but we should see the sunspots making for improved propagation over the next five or six years. The higher frequency bands are beginning to see more frequent activity now.

For those who have computers and internet access, please check out my web site at: <http://members.aol.com/browne>. The amateur radio pages there include Florida and Southwest Florida ham info, Florida repeater listings, listings of all area hams in Hendry, Glades, and west Lee county, online callbooks, and the latest Knights of the Kilocycle news as well as two QCWA chapter newsletter briefs. Also check out the ham radio web links mentioned in articles for the Cyberham section of Florida Skip, and the national online yellow pages and white phonebook links. There's even a chat room for those who want to do some online talk.

The Knights encourage new check-ins each Sunday morning to ham radio's oldest net. Please join us each Sunday at 7:30 AM, 3910 Kilocycles and let us know what's been happening in your area. We welcome all hams from anyone that can hear us. Invite your friends to listen and call in Sunday morning. See you all on Sunday morning.

Juno.com Suing Spammers

NEW YORK, NEW YORK, U.S.A., 1997 NOV 25 (NB)
— By Grant Buckler, Newsbytes. Juno Online Services, L.P., is suing five companies it accuses of forging Juno electronic-mail addresses on unsolicited e-mail, or spam. Spammers use such fake return addresses to avoid being flooded with angry messages from their victims.

Juno provides free electronic-mail accounts and gets its revenue from selling "highly targeted interactive advertising" and through direct sales of product and services — which the company stresses are optional — to its subscribers.

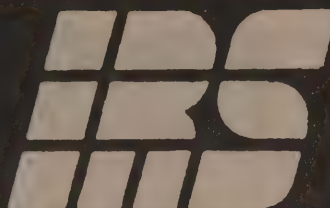
Juno has laid charges against: Strippers Inc., of Beverly Hills, California; IMS, of Knoxville, Tennessee; Phoenix Interactive, of Hermosa Beach, California; Global Information Services, of Clearwater, Florida; and Scott Allen Export Sales of Somerset, New Jersey. The company wants \$1 million in punitive damages from each company on charges of fraud, false designation of origin, and unjust enrichment.

Like many major online service providers, Juno has a policy forbidding its subscribers to use its facilities to send spam, and will terminate accounts for violations. The company said it has also taken technical measures to make it hard to send spam from its accounts or relay it through them. However, the company said, it cannot stop spammers from tampering with the headers of their messages to make them appear to come from Juno accounts when in fact they were sent from elsewhere.

Richard Buchband, general counsel at Juno, told Newsbytes his company became aware of the e-mail header forgeries through complaints from its own subscribers and other e-mail users. There were "quite a number" of complaints, he said.

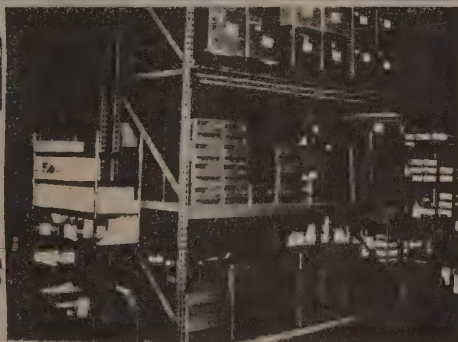
Buchband also said there are precedents supporting Juno's case. America Online and other online service providers have obtained injunctions to stop the forgery of e-mail headers in the past, he said.

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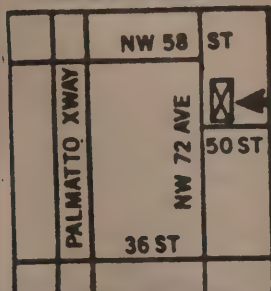


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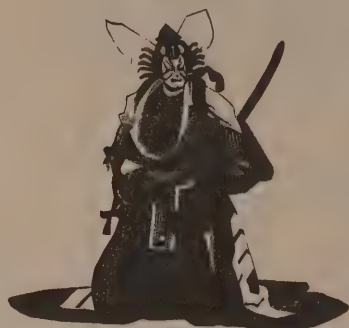
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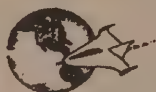
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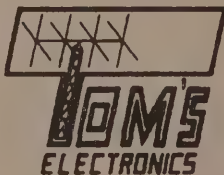
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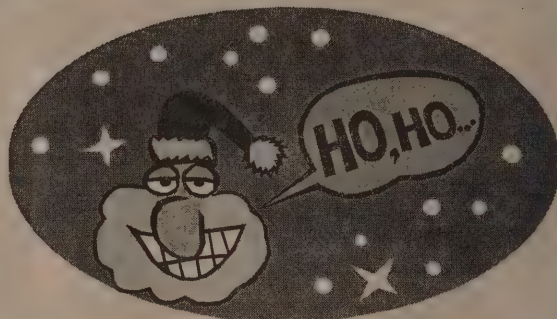
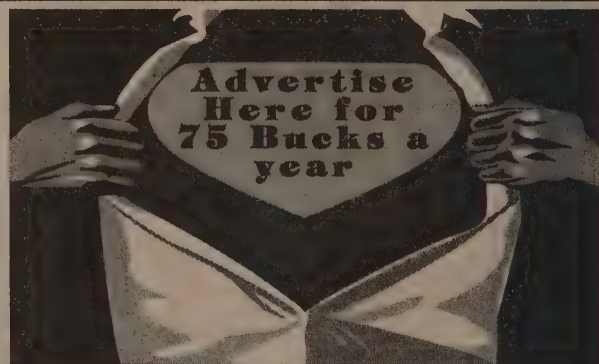
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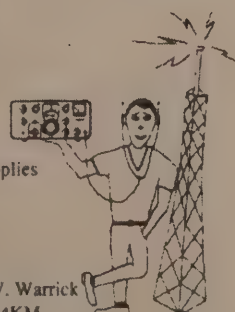
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FCC Issues RF Safety Supplement B to OET BULLETIN 65

Hams now have basic guidelines and tools to evaluate their stations for compliance with the FCC's RF exposure guidelines that start phasing in January 1, 1998. The FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology issued the long-anticipated Amateur Radio Supplement B to its OET Bulletin 65 on November 18. The FCC worked closely with the Amateur Radio community to develop the new supplement. Several ARRL Headquarters staff members and Technical Advisors reviewed preliminary drafts of the supplement. ARRL Lab Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFI, has been the League's point man for RF safety and exposure issues.

Supplement B, entitled Additional Information for Amateur Radio Stations, contains detailed information specific to ham radio stations. It is designed to be used in conjunction with the FCC's OET Bulletin 65 (Version 97-01), Evaluating Compliance with FCC Guidelines for Human Exposure to Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields. The revised Bulletin 65 was issued earlier this year. Supplement B covers definitions of RF radiation and discusses the FCC exposure guidelines and their applications, methods of predicting human exposure, estimating compliance distances, and controlling exposure to RF fields. The supplement runs approximately 70 pages. Among its noteworthy highlights are numerous easy-to-use tables based on various frequencies, power levels and antenna configurations to help hams determine whether their stations comply with the FCC's published RF exposure guidelines. Most tables show compliance distance—the distance that an antenna needs to be located from areas of exposure to be in compliance. (For a closer look, see "FCC RF-Exposure Regulations—the Station Evaluation," by Ed Hare, W1RFI, which will appear in the January issue of QST.)

The new RF exposure rules go into effect January 1, 1998 for all new stations and for those filing a Form 610 with the FCC after that date. Existing stations have until September 1, 2000 to comply with the new rules. But, existing stations making changes that could affect RF exposure from their station—such as increasing power or relocating antennas—must evaluate that change if done after January 1, 1998.

As first announced, the FCC set a power threshold of 50 W to trigger the need to do a station evaluation. In late August, the FCC revised the power level thresholds to trigger a routine Amateur Radio station RF exposure evaluation. Those changes were welcome news for most hams. The new guidelines raised its original 50-W PEP threshold on all bands except 10 meters through 2 meters, where it remains at 50 W PEP. The FCC went along in part with an ARRL request and established a sliding scale for threshold levels dependent upon frequency. The revised thresholds (all PEP) are 500 W for 160 through 40 meters, 425 W on 30 meters (the maximum legal power is 200 W), 225 W on 20 meters, 125 W on 17 meters, 100 W on 15 meters, 75 W on 12 meters and 50 W on 10 meters. The threshold for all VHF bands is 50 W. On UHF, the threshold level is 70 W on 70 cm, 150 W on 33 cm, 200 W on 23 cm, and 250 W on 13 cm and higher frequencies.

The threshold for amateur repeaters is 500 W effective radiated power (ERP) if the repeater antenna is located on a building or is less than 10 meters above ground. Stations operating at or below these respective power levels are categorically excluded from having to conduct a routine RF radiation evaluation. Mobile and portable (hand-held) devices using push-to-talk operation generally are also exempt from evaluation. But, all stations—regardless of power level—still must comply with the RF exposure limits that become effective New Year's Day.

OET Bulletin 65 and the new Supplement B are available at <http://www.fcc.gov/oet/info/documents/bulletins/#65>. Copies are available from International Transcription Service Inc, 1231 20th St NW, Washington, DC 20036; tel 202-857-3800; fax 202-857-3805.

SFL BBS Totals - Oct, 1997

Compiled by Bill Britton, KB4VOL

BBS	NTS	PERS	BUL	TOT MSGS
AE4IG	1	242	5804	6047
K0ZXF	-NO REPORT-			
K4VJI	-NO REPORT-			
KB4GBS	-NO REPORT-			
KB4VOL	OFF THE AIR - LIGHTNING DAMAGE			
KB4WUA	-NO REPORT-			
KC4YEK	-NO REPORT-			
KD4GR	-NO REPORT-			
KE2IX	-NO REPORT-			
KF4BPX	0	301	4869	5170
KF4OJ	0	29	420	449
KO4KS	3	996	6112	7111
KP4EDL	0	332	4169	4501
N4AWX	-NO REPORT-			
N4HHP	21	440	4202	4663
N4XEO	19	1053	10338	11410
W4DPH	23	2030	9729	11782
W4MIN	1	329	6442	6772
W4MLB	-NO REPORT-			
W4MWP	-NO REPORT-			
WA2LKI	-NO REPORT-			
WB2WPA	0	108	4799	4907
WB4MOZ	25	321	4070	4416
WB4TEM	-NO REPORT-			
WD8IBY	-NO REPORT-			

NTS TOTAL: 93

SYNOPS: I NEED YOUR HELP! Are the stations not reporting still on the air? Please let me know. Thanks!

As you know, the KB4VOL BBS was hit by lightning causing extensive damage. It will still be a while before I can get it back on the air. In the meantime, PLEASE continue to send the monthly BBS STATS reports, as well as changes to any of the monthly lists, on the 1st of each month.

By E-Mail: Send to kb4vol@gate.net By packet: Send to KB4VOL @ N4XEO, who forwards them to me.

As you can see by the reports above, we missed many stations. However, there were a few updates for the monthly lists received by E-Mail. Any list with new information will go out this month. The rest won't. If you did send an update for one of the lists and it's not there, I didn't get it. Please send it again. Hopefully, things will be back to normal soon.

73... Bill, KB4VOL @ N4XEO, ARRL Packet Manager South Florida. E-MAIL: kb4vol@gate.net

* VISIT THE FL HAM WEB SITE! LOTS OF HAM INFO AND THE MONTHLY LISTS! *

<http://pages.prodigy.com/kb4vol>

Top Twenty Traffickers - OCT., 1997

by AA4HT and WX4H

Station	Total	Station	Total
1 W3CUL	935	11 KA4FZI	218
2 WX4H	916	12 KC4ZHF	205
3 WA9VND	752	13 NR2F	195
4 W3VR	685	14 KE4OAV	183
5 KE4DNO	635	15 KD4HGU	167
6 W7AMM	522	16 KF4NFP	154
7 KA2YZM	454	17 W4DL	147
8 KB4WBY	299	18 KD4GR	143
9 K4SCL	289	19 WB4PAM	135
10 AB4XK	231	20 K4FQU	113



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Upcoming Shows in Florida - Sept., 1997

Compiled by
Bill Britton, KB4VOL

Dec 6 Okeechobee Agriculture Center Bldg
on US 441 1.5 mi north of SR 70
Talk-in on 147.195
INFO: Al, AD4RZ (941) 467-0516

Dec 6 Ocala Booster Stadium
N 36th Ave 1 mile N of SR 40
Talk-in on 146.970
INFO: Mario, N4TSV (352) 245-9514

Dec 13 Lake City FL Sports Hall of Fame
I-75 exit 82 to US 90 west
Talk-in on 145.490
INFO: Colen, WA5RKR (904) 755-7969

1998

Jan 10/11 Fort Myers Southwest Florida Hamfest
at Cape Coral American Legion
on 47th Terrace, Cape Coral
Talk-in on 147.345
INFO: Jim, KQ4OR (941) 997-6423

Jan 17 Crystal River Crystal River Armory
Talk-in on 146.955
INFO: Bill, KO4ZA (904) 382-5755

Jan 18 Pinellas Park Benefit Boy's & Girl's Club
7790 61st St North
Talk-in on 147.060
INFO: Mike, KC4TEX (813) 823-4251

Jan 24 Arcadia Desoto County Fairgrounds
US 17, 1/2 mi south of SR 70
Talk-in on 147.075
INFO: Doug, KN4YT (941) 494-5070

Jan 24 Crystal River Nat'l Guard Armory
Off US 19 on Seven Rivers Dr.
Talk-in on 146.955
INFO: Ernie, KD4LJU (352) 382-1239

Feb 7/8 Miami Dade County Expo Center
SW 112th Ave & Coral Way
Talk-in on 146.760 or 146.925
INFO: Evelyn, W4WYR (305) 642-4139

Feb 7 Pensacola Bayfront Municipality Auditorium
Talk-in on 146.760 & 444.925
INFO: Bill, WA4YRN (904) 476-8537

Feb 14/15 Orlando Central Florida Fairgrounds
4300 W. Colonial Way
Talk-in on 146.760
INFO: Ken, KD4JQR (407) 961-2465

Feb 21/22 Sarasota Roberts Sports Arena
3000 Fruitville Rd.
Talk-in on 146.919 & 444.925
INFO: Dave, AE4MR (941) 923-3967

Feb 21 Brooksville VFW Hall in Spring Hill
Talk-in on 146.715
INFO: Lee, WA3YMV (352) 799-1638

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